

Senate Resolution 1300

By: Senator Tolleson of the 20th

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the life of Lt. Col. William "Doc" Stinson and dedicating a highway in his
2 memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Laurens County has always had many brave men and women willing to serve
4 in the military to defend the freedoms of this great country; and

5 WHEREAS, some of these soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice in giving their life fighting
6 for this great country; and

7 WHEREAS, William "Doc" Stinson was one of Laurens County's great war heroes who
8 began his military career by joining the Army in 1946; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1949, Stinson was accepted to West Point and graduated as a member of the
10 class of 1953; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1962, Stinson was among the first advisers sent to Vietnam, where he was
12 shot and wounded in his legs while on a patrol; and

13 WHEREAS, after recovering from his combat wounds, Stinson was assigned to teach at
14 West Point until 1966 when he took another command in Hawaii; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1968, after requesting a combat command, Lt. Col. "Doc" Stinson was given
16 command of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry Regiment, 198th Light Infantry Brigade of the
17 23rd "American" Division; and

18 WHEREAS, on several occasions, Stinson flew his command helicopter into lethal situations
19 to assist with the rescue of his men, earning him a Silver Star; and

20 WHEREAS, on March 3, 1969, one of Stinson's platoons was engaged in a fight with the
21 enemy, and Stinson took his command helicopter into the battle to provide a fresh supply of
22 ammunition and to help evacuate the dead and wounded, and while helping to lift two dead
23 soldiers into the helicopter, Stinson was mortally wounded; and

24 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that a lasting memorial to this brave soldier be
25 established.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
27 GEORGIA that a portion of the new bypass in Laurens County from Highway 80 to
28 Highway 441 North be dedicated as the Lt. Col. William "Doc" Stinson Highway.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
30 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Lt. Col. William "Doc"
31 Stinson Highway.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Lt. Col. William "Doc"
34 Stinson and the Department of Transportation.